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Employment Situation, November 1985

Maine Department of Labor

Maine Bureau of Employment Security

Maine Division of Economic Analysis and Research

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BATH-BRUNSWICK LABOR MARKET AREA

The opening of the new Topsham Fair Mall and the recall of several hundred workers in the shipbuilding industry helped to lessen the impact of the normal seasonal economic downturn in the Bath-Brunswick Labor Market Area in November. The area also experienced seasonal layoffs in eating and drinking places, hotels and other lodging places, and contract construction. The combination of expansions and seasonal layoffs resulted in an unusual increase in both employment and unemployment for this time of year. The local unemployment rate increased from 3.2 percent in October to 3.5 percent in November, as resident employment rose from 23,320 to 23,800, while unemployment climbed from 780 to 870. The local unemployment rate was the lowest November rate ever recorded in this area. Meanwhile, the state's unemployment rate jumped from 3.9 percent in October to 4.6 percent in November, while the national rate fell from 6.8 percent to 6.7 percent.

BIDDEFORD LABOR MARKET AREA

The unemployment rate in the Biddeford Labor Market Area rose from 3.3 percent in October to 3.7 percent in November. Resident employment fell from 23,330 to 22,690, while the number unemployed rose from 800 to 880. The slump in local economic conditions can be attributed in part to seasonal employment losses in retail trade, services, and contract construction. Manufacturing employment changed little. Despite this month's rise in the unemployment rate to 3.7 percent, the local rate remains below the state and national rates of 4.6 percent and 6.7 percent, respectively.

LEWISTON-AUBURN METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA

The unemployment rate in the Lewiston-Auburn Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) increased from 4.8 percent in October to 5.8 percent in November. The latest local unemployment rate compared favorably with the national rate of 6.7 percent, but was above the statewide rate of 4.6 percent. Between October and November, local resident employment declined from 39,400 to 38,800, with layoffs in services, shoes, nonelectrical machinery, and agriculture exceeding seasonal job gains in retail trade. This resulted in an increase of 400 in the ranks of the unemployed, which totaled 2,400 in November. Last year at this time, 39,300 local residents were employed, 2,700 were unemployed, and the unemployment rate was 6.4 percent.

PORTLAND METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA

Seasonal employment losses resulted in resident employment dropping in the Portland Metropolitan Statistical Area in November. Resident employment fell from 101,800 in October to 100,700 in November, while the number unemployed rose from 2,500 to 2,800. The unemployment rate increased from 2.4 percent in October to 2.7 percent in November. Last year at this time the unemployment rate was 3.4 percent and 3,600 were jobless. This November the local rate was well below state and national rates of 4.6 percent and 6.7 percent, respectively. Employment gains in the manufacture of transportation equipment were unable to offset seasonal losses in contract construction and services.

RUMFORD LABOR MARKET AREA

The unemployment rate in the Rumford Labor Market Area increased from 4.5 percent in October to 5.6 percent in November. The downturn in local economic conditions was mostly attributable to layoffs in lumber and wood products, shoes, and paper manufacturing, which continue to be affected by foreign competition. Between October and November, local resident employment fell from 9,130 to 8,780, while total joblessness increased from 430 to 520. Last year 710 persons were unemployed, and the unemployment rate was 7.3 percent.

WATERVILLE LABOR MARKET AREA

Resident employment declined slightly in the Waterville Labor Market Area during November. The number unemployed rose from 920 in October to 980 in November, while resident employment dipped from 20,580 to 20,480. The resultant unemployment rate of 4.6 percent was equal to the state's unemployment rate for the month but below the national rate of 6.7 percent. Additionally, the current unemployment rate remained below the rate of 4.9 percent recorded in the area a year ago. At that time, 21,310 residents were employed, while 1,100 were jobless. In the nonfarm sector between October and November, employment improved in paper and allied products and apparel. Although employment increased in trade and services, contract construction declined, thereby resulting in little change in the nonmanufacturing sector.

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CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE BY MAINE LABOR MARKET AREA, NEW ENGLAND STATES, AND THE UNITED STATES^{1/}

AREAS	LABOR FORCE ^{2/}			RESIDENT EMPLOYED			UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	Nov. 85	Oct. 85	Nov. 84	Nov. 85	Oct. 85	Nov. 84	Nov. 85	Oct. 85	Nov. 84	Nov. 85	Oct. 85	Nov. 84
MAINE-Statewide	536.7	545.8	548.1	512.2	524.7	518.8	24.5	21.1	29.3	4.6	3.9	5.3
MAJOR LABOR MARKETS												
Bangor MSA	48,000	48,000	47,900	46,100	46,400	45,700	1,900	1,600	2,200	4.0	3.3	4.6
Lawiston-Auburn MSA	41,200	41,400	42,000	38,800	39,400	39,300	2,400	2,000	2,700	5.8	4.8	6.4
Portland MSA	103,500	104,300	104,700	100,700	101,800	101,100	2,800	2,500	3,600	2.7	2.4	3.4
Portsmouth-Dover-Rochester MSA ^{3/}	104,940	105,560	102,980	101,960	102,860	98,210	2,980	2,700	4,770	2.8	2.6	4.6
OTHER LABOR MARKETS												
Augusta	29,820	30,060	30,830	28,490	28,780	29,270	1,330	1,280	1,560	4.5	4.3	5.1
Bath-Brunswick	24,670	24,100	26,060	23,800	23,320	25,120	870	780	940	3.5	3.2	3.6
Belfast	10,010	10,490	11,560	9,140	9,780	10,390	870	710	1,170	8.7	6.8	10.1
Biddeford	23,570	24,130	23,200	22,690	23,330	22,060	880	800	1,140	3.7	3.3	4.9
Boothbay Harbor-Wiscasset	9,170	10,050	8,460	8,730	9,720	7,980	440	330	480	4.8	3.3	5.7
Calais-Eastport	14,710	15,110	15,420	13,830	14,360	14,280	880	750	1,140	6.0	5.0	7.4
Caribou-Presque Isle	20,970	20,910	21,250	19,390	19,740	19,300	1,580	1,170	1,950	7.5	5.6	9.2
Central Penobscot	4,530	4,520	4,390	4,340	4,340	4,190	190	180	200	4.2	4.0	4.6
Dover-Foxcroft	6,460	6,550	6,620	6,150	6,270	6,280	310	280	340	4.8	4.3	5.1
Ellsworth	21,280	23,450	21,520	20,350	22,790	20,220	930	660	1,300	4.4	2.8	6.0
Farmington	12,420	12,660	13,290	11,560	11,830	12,270	860	830	1,020	6.9	6.6	7.7
Fort Kent-Allagash	5,880	5,940	5,900	5,510	5,660	5,520	370	280	380	6.3	4.7	6.4
Greenville	1,440	1,440	1,740	1,350	1,380	1,610	90	60	130	6.3	4.2	7.5
Houlton	5,210	5,290	5,150	4,890	5,040	4,820	320	250	330	6.1	4.7	6.4
Kittery-York ^{3/}	23,180	23,350	22,730	22,800	23,120	22,020	380	230	710	1.6	1.0	3.1
Lincoln-Howland	6,270	6,220	6,190	5,960	5,920	5,910	310	300	280	4.9	4.8	4.5
Livermore Falls	3,300	3,440	3,670	3,040	3,190	3,320	260	250	350	7.9	7.3	9.5
Madawaska-Van Buren	4,090	4,180	4,200	3,810	3,930	3,880	280	250	320	6.8	6.0	7.6
Millinocket-East Millinocket	5,430	5,430	5,430	5,220	5,240	5,240	210	190	190	3.9	3.5	3.5
Norway-Paris	8,940	9,130	9,100	8,380	8,650	8,450	560	480	650	6.3	5.3	7.1
Patten-Island Falls	2,740	2,740	2,560	2,610	2,650	2,450	130	90	110	4.7	3.3	4.3
Rockland	17,870	18,530	19,130	17,110	17,960	18,140	760	570	990	4.3	3.1	5.2
Rumford	9,300	9,560	9,760	8,780	9,130	9,050	520	430	710	5.6	4.5	7.3
Sanford	12,520	12,780	13,170	11,700	11,930	12,360	820	850	810	6.5	6.7	6.2
Sebago Lakes Region	9,130	10,120	8,910	8,800	9,820	8,520	330	300	390	3.6	3.0	4.4
Skowhegan	21,340	21,940	22,540	20,040	20,750	21,030	1,300	1,190	1,510	6.1	5.4	6.7
Southwest Penobscot	8,340	8,420	8,440	7,690	7,840	7,760	650	580	680	7.8	6.9	8.1
Waterville	21,460	21,500	22,410	20,480	20,580	21,310	980	920	1,100	4.6	4.3	4.9
OTHER NEW ENGLAND STATES												
Connecticut	n/a	1,722.7	1,694.4	n/a	1,643.4	1,620.3	n/a	79.3	74.1	n/a	4.6	4.4
Massachusetts	3,067.0	3,040.0	3,075.4	2,958.0	2,925.0	2,971.2	110.0	115.0	104.2	3.6	3.8	3.4
New Hampshire	540.0	540.3	527.0	525.7	526.4	509.9	14.4	13.9	17.1	2.7	2.6	3.2
Rhode Island	508.8	509.4	504.7	488.5	490.2	482.3	20.3	19.2	22.4	4.0	3.8	4.4
Vermont	281.9	282.5	275.2	268.9	271.5	264.4	13.0	10.9	10.8	4.6	3.9	3.9
NEW ENGLAND STATES	n/a	6,094.8	6,076.7	n/a	5,856.5	5,848.1	n/a	238.3	228.6	n/a	3.9	3.8
UNITED STATES^{4/}	116,097	116,346	114,115	108,282	108,428	106,246	7,815	7,917	7,869	6.7	6.8	6.9

MSA-Metropolitan Statistical Area
Note: n/a indicates that the information was not available at the time of printing. Employment and unemployment may not add to labor force due to rounding.

^{1/} Labor force, employment, and unemployment data for all areas not seasonally adjusted. Estimates made independently for each labor market area have been benchmarked to and extrapolated from the Current Population Survey estimates for the state. All data adjusted to place of residence basis. Excludes members of the Armed Forces.
^{2/} Current and last month figures preliminary; year ago figures revised.
^{3/} Kittery-York is the eight-town Maine portion of the Portsmouth-Dover-Rochester MSA which includes towns in both Maine and New Hampshire.
^{4/} National estimates based on a sample of household visits; state estimates based on enlargements of employment figures reported.

THESE DATA ARE COMPILED BY THE MAINE BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY IN COOPERATION WITH THE U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS.

Labor Market Information Services



NOVEMBER 1985

SUPPLEMENT TO THE STATEWIDE MONTHLY NEWS RELEASE

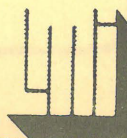
A BRIEF ANALYSIS COVERING SELECTED MAINE LABOR MARKET AREAS

AUGUSTA LABOR MARKET AREA

Resident employment changed very little in the Augusta Labor Market Area in November. The number unemployed rose from 1,280 in October to 1,330 in November, while employment followed historical trends and inched downward to 28,490 from 28,780 in October. This decline in resident employment, coupled with the increase in the number unemployed, resulted in the unemployment rate rising to 4.5 percent, or 0.2 percentage points above the rate recorded in October. This November the local unemployment rate was below the rate of 5.1 percent recorded a year ago. It was also below the current unemployment rates for both the state and nation of 4.6 percent and 6.7 percent, respectively. Employment in manufacturing rose slightly over-the-month, as employment losses in paper and allied products were offset by employment gains in apparel and leather and leather products. Employment in the nonmanufacturing sector declined following normal historical trends. Most of the employment losses occurred in construction and trade.

BANGOR METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA

An increase in the number of unemployed helped boost the Bangor Metropolitan Statistical Area unemployment rate from 3.3 percent in October to 4.0 percent in November. The number of unemployed rose 300 to 1,900 in November, while resident employment decreased 300 to 46,100. A year ago 2,200 residents were unemployed and the unemployment rate stood at 4.6 percent. Corresponding state and national unemployment rates for this November were 4.6 percent and 6.7 percent, respectively. Manufacturing employment remained relatively stable between October and November. Paper and allied products and printing and publishing industries recorded strong gains in employment, while modest losses were registered in lumber and wood products, textile mill products, and leather and leather products. All major industry groups contributed to higher employment levels in the nonmanufacturing sector with the exception of contract construction. The largest gains were noted in wholesale and retail trade and nondomestic services. Employment is expected to jump sharply in wholesale and retail trade in support of the holiday shopping season. A much improved local economy and a substantial increase in the number of retail businesses in the Bangor Mall complex have been major contributors to rapid growth in wholesale and retail trade. A new Shaw's Super Market now under construction located adjacent to the Bangor Mall complex is expected to create approximately 240 jobs by early 1986.



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CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE BY MAINE COUNTY

STATISTICAL DATA SERIES: CCLF 11-85

COUNTY 1/	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE 2/			UNEMPLOYMENT			RATE			RESIDENT EMPLOYED		
	Nov. 85	Oct. 85	Nov. 84	Nov. 85	Oct. 85	Nov. 84	Nov. 85	Oct. 85	Nov. 84	Nov. 85	Oct. 85	Nov. 84
ANDROSCOGGIN	46,490	46,830	47,660	2,720	2,320	3,070	5.9	5.0	6.4	43,770	44,510	44,590
AROOSTOOK	38,000	38,160	38,260	2,630	2,000	3,080	6.9	5.2	8.1	35,370	36,160	35,180
CUMBERLAND	111,530	112,550	113,150	3,070	2,740	3,830	2.8	2.4	3.4	108,460	109,810	109,320
FRANKLIN	12,420	12,660	13,290	860	830	1,020	6.9	6.6	7.7	11,560	11,830	12,270
HANCOCK	21,280	23,450	21,520	930	660	1,300	4.4	2.8	6.0	20,350	22,790	20,220
KENNEBEC	49,610	49,880	51,540	2,240	2,140	2,600	4.5	4.3	5.0	47,370	47,740	48,940
KNOX	15,880	16,530	17,090	620	510	910	3.9	3.1	5.3	15,260	16,020	16,180
LINCOLN	11,630	12,520	11,030	590	410	600	5.1	3.3	5.4	11,040	12,110	10,430
OXFORD	19,790	20,520	20,330	1,100	930	1,410	5.6	4.5	6.9	18,690	19,590	18,920
PENOBSCOT	71,840	71,890	71,550	3,200	2,800	3,460	4.5	3.9	4.8	68,640	69,090	68,090
PISCATAQUIS	7,890	7,990	8,350	400	340	470	5.1	4.3	5.6	7,490	7,650	7,880
SAGadahoc	13,080	12,810	13,720	550	490	530	4.2	3.8	3.9	12,530	12,320	13,190
SOMERSET	21,340	21,940	22,540	1,300	1,190	1,510	6.1	5.4	6.7	20,040	20,750	21,030
WALDO	11,590	12,050	13,100	950	760	1,230	8.2	6.3	9.4	10,640	11,290	11,870
WASHINGTON	14,710	15,110	15,420	880	750	1,140	6.0	5.0	7.4	13,830	14,360	14,280
YORK	69,600	70,850	69,520	2,440	2,180	3,130	3.5	3.1	4.5	67,160	68,670	66,390

1/ Labor force, employment, and unemployment data are not seasonally adjusted. All data are on a place of residence basis. Members of the armed forces are excluded.

2/ Current and last month figures preliminary; year ago figures revised.

THESE DATA ARE COMPILED BY THE MAINE BUREAU OF EMPLOYMENT SECURITY AS A FEDERAL STATE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE U.S. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

